



The New York Public Library
Music Division

Guide to the

Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti scrapbook

1925-1941

JPB 14-14

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014

Summary

Creator: Persichetti, Dorothea

Title: Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti scrapbook

Date: 1925-1941

Size: .25 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Unknown.

Abstract: Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti (1919-1987) was a pianist and music educator, and the wife of the composer Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987). The Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti scrapbook, dating from 1925 to 1941, mostly documents the musician's education and performance career in El Dorado, Kansas.

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Preferred citation: Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti scrapbook, Music Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note: Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014 Received order was maintained. Scrapbook contents were rehoused in two folders.

Creator History

Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti (1919-1987) was a pianist and music educator, and the wife of the composer Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987). She grew up in El Dorado, Kansas, and started studying piano at age 6. She later expanded to cello, organ, and oboe studies. Flanagan began performing at

age 12 and was active as a piano soloist and accompanist, orchestral musician, and organist.

Flanagan moved to Philadelphia in the late 1930s to study at the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music, where she and Vincent Persichetti tied in a scholarship competition to study piano with Olga Samaroff. Both studied with Samaroff, as well as with Paul Nordoff. Flanagan and Persichetti married in 1941 and taught at the Conservatory. Vincent departed in 1947 to teach at the Juilliard School, but Dorothea continued to teach theory, analysis, and other subjects at the Philadelphia Conservatory through the 1950s. She eventually earned her doctorate there in 1960. Mrs. Persichetti conducted master classes in piano and theory at other colleges and universities, and maintained a teaching studio at her home. She occasionally performed with her husband, recorded one of his works with him (for piano-four hands), and collaborated with him on books and articles.

Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti's death in Philadelphia followed her husband's by about three months.

Scope and Content Note

The Dorothea Flanagan Persichetti scrapbook, dating from 1925 to 1941, documents the musician's education and performance career in El Dorado, Kansas, as well as her early years in Philadelphia. It holds concert and piano competition programs, clippings, notes of congratulation, diplomas, school grade reports, and letters from music schools to which she applied. Most of the content covers her years in El Dorado, with only a few items dated after 1937.

Key Terms

Occupations

Composers
Musicians
Pianists
Teachers

Geographic Names

El Dorado (Kan.)
Philadelphia (Pa.)

Subjects

Music teachers
Piano teachers
Women pianists

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Scrapbooks

Names

Persichetti, Vincent, 1915-1987